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BOROUGH OF APPLEBY

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE YEAR

1946

KENDAL
TITUS WILSON AND SON LTD., PRINTERS
—
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To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the Borough of Appleby.

SIR, LADY AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit to you my Annual Report upon the health of the Borough during the year 1946.

The credit for almost the whole of the services provided must rest with my predecessor in office, Dr. W. Baron Cockill, who relinquished his appointment on 31st October, 1946, after 32 years in your service.

I wish to acknowledge with gratitude the help and assistance given to me by Dr. Cockill in the taking over of his post, and also the friendly co-operation of my colleague, Dr. Guy, the County Medical Officer of Health.

I am indebted also to the Sanitary Inspector and his staff for their willing assistance, and fund of local knowledge which have been most helpful to me.

We have now to look ahead to a period of reorganisation of the country's medical services and overcome the inevitable difficulties which will arise.

If you desire any further particulars I shall be glad to furnish them.

I have the honour to be,
Sir, Lady and Gentlemen,
Your obedient servant,
FRANK T. MADGE,
Medical Officer of Health.

STAFF CHANGES.

Medical Officer of Health.

On the 31st of October, 1946, William Baron Cockill, M.D., Ch.B., L.R.C.P., M.R.C.S., L.S.A., D.P.H., retired from the Appointment of Medical Officer of Health to the Combined County Districts of Westmorland.

On the 1st of November, 1946, Frank Tyrer Madge, M.D., Ch.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H., succeeded to the Appointment on release from the Royal Air Force.

Sanitary Inspector.

William Binney, A.R.I.B.A., was appointed Assistant Sanitary Inspector in October, 1946.

VITAL STATISTICS.

The following extracts are made from information supplied by the Registrar-General, with figures for 1945 for comparison:—

Area of Appleby Borough in acres 1,877

			1945	1946
Estimated civilian population (mid-year) ..			1,658	1,660
Live Births.	Legitimate—	males	15	16
		females	11	14
	Illegitimate—	males	—	3
		females	—	1
	Total		26	34
	Rate per 1,000 population ..		15.6	20.5
	Rate for England and Wales ..		16.1	19.1
Stillbirths.	Legitimate—	males	—	1
		females	—	Nil
	Illegitimate—	males	—	Nil
		females	—	Nil
	Total		—	1
	Rate per 1,000 total live and still births		—	28.5
	Rate per 1,000 population ..		—	0.6
	,, for England and Wales ..		0.46	0.53
Deaths.	Males		15	10
	Females		14	15
	Total		29	25
	Rate per 1,000 population		17.5	15.6
	Rate, England and Wales		11.4	11.5
Infantile Deaths (under 1 year)				
	Legitimate		—	1
	Rate per 1,000 legitimate live births		—	33.3
	Illegitimate		—	—
	Rate per 1,000 illegitimate live births		—	—
	Total Deaths under 1 year		—	1
	Rate per 1,000 live births		—	29.4
	Rate for England and Wales		46	43

	1945	1946
Neonatal Deaths. (under 1 month)		
Total neonatal deaths	—	1
Rate per 1,000 live births	—	29.4
Deaths from Diarrhoea and Enteritis (under 2 years)		
Deaths	—	—
Rate per 1,000 live births	—	—
Rate for England and Wales	5.6	4.4
Maternal Mortality		
Deaths from Puerperal Sepsis ..	—	—
Rate per 1,000 live and still births ..	—	—
Deaths from other Puerperal Causes	—	—
Rate per 1,000 live and still births ..	—	—
Total deaths	—	—
Rate per 1,000 live and still births ..	—	—
Rate for England and Wales	1.79	1.43

Deaths from certain causes:—

Cancer	3
Measles	Nil
Whooping Cough	Nil

The main causes of death were:—

1 Heart Disease	7
2 Intra-cranial vascular lesions	3
3 Cancer	3

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

Apart from an epidemic of Whooping Cough the Borough has been remarkably free from infectious disease.

The case of Dysentery was not considered to have originated in England.

Tuberculosis.

There were no cases of Tuberculosis notified during 1946.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES TABLE.

Disease.	Total.	Ages.												Admitted to Hospital.	Deaths.
		-1	1-	2-	3-	4-	5-	10-	15-	20-	35-	45-	65-		
Puerperal Pyrexia ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Amoebic Dysentery ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—
Measles	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough ..	19	2	—	2	2	3	9	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Total	22	2	—	2	3	3	9	—	—	2	—	1	—	1	—

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Housing.

There are 505 houses in the Area, a number of which were condemned before the 1939-45 War and many more need modernising. A certain amount of overcrowding cannot be avoided in the present difficult housing situation. One house is in the course of construction and plans have been approved for another, and the Council propose to proceed with the erection of a further 16.

Water.

The quantity of the public water supply from Bank Wood springs is sufficient for the district and the 26 farms outside the Borough. There are two storage reservoirs of 60,000 and 100,000 gallons respectively and the supply is only slightly affected by prolonged drought.

The quality of the water was tested at the commencement of the year and it was reported that the water was satisfactory in both the bacteriological and chemical tests and that there was no plumbosolvency. The following chemical analysis was furnished by the County Analyst:—

Free and Saline Ammonia	...	.0011	parts per	100,000
Albuminoid Ammonia	...	.0036	,,	,,
Chlorides	...	1.3	,,	,,
Nitrates	...	.181	,,	,,
Oxygen Absorption	...	.048	,,	,,
Total Solids	...	10.0	,,	,,
pH.	...	6.9	,,	,,
Temporary Hardness	...	1.0	,,	,,
Permanent ,,	...	6.0		
Injurious Metals	...	Nil		

Of the 505 houses in the Borough 502 are connected directly to the public water supply and the other three have private sources. No complaints of contamination were received or suspected during the year, and the water is supplied untreated.

Sewerage.

Water closets are provided in each house with a few exceptions where a closet is common to two houses and privies are confined to the farms in the district.

Treatment is by precipitation tanks and land irrigation.

Public Cleansing.

There has been no change in the previous arrangements.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Milk.

The bulk of the milk supplied to the Borough comes from two producer-retailers, although there are 11 cowsheds registered in the Area. The sheds are good and are kept in a clean condition.

Meat.

Meat is supplied directly from the Central Slaughterhouse at Penrith. Four slaughterhouses remain on the register but there is no slaughtering therein. A limited supply of potted meat and sausages are produced. No meat has been condemned during the year.

Bakehouses.

There are seven on the register.

Offensive Trades.

There are none in the Area.

Sanitary Defects.

The district has been regularly inspected and a small number of defects were discovered. Most of the defects were remedied on notifying the owners, and in only one case was it necessary to serve a statutory notice.